

February is National Black History Month

Black History Month, celebrated annually in February, celebrates the contributions of Black Americans to American culture and their struggle for freedom and equality.

In February 1926, historian Carter G. Woodson launched a weeklong celebration of the achievements, contributions, and legacies of Black Americans, which later expanded to become Black History Month. Woodson believed that African American accomplishments were “overlooked, ignored and even suppressed by the writers of history textbooks and the teachers who use them.” He believed that all should understand the contributions of Black Americans to the U.S.

Black History Month has an annual theme. The 2023 theme, “Black Resistance,” focuses on the resistance of historic and ongoing oppression in all forms for Black Americans.

The following resources offer further information about Black History Month.

Resources:

- Association for the Study of African American Life and History: <https://asalh.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2023-Black-History-Theme-Executive-Summary.pdf>
- NAACP: <http://www.naACP.org/>
- Library of Congress: <https://blackhistorymonth.gov/about/>
- National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/news/topics/african-american-history>
- National Endowment for the Humanities: <https://edsitement.neh.gov/teachers-guides/african-american-history-and-culture-united-states>
- Smithsonian Institution: <https://nmaahc.si.edu>

